

THE MACON BEACON.

60th YEAR

MACON, MISSISSIPPI, FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1910.

NUMBER 35

Out of the Ground.

When one thinks of treasure dug from the earth one naturally puts gold and silver, the so called precious metals, at the top of the list. And yet figures show that they form only a meager part of the spoil that man wrests from nature's storehouse.

A recent estimate of the value of minerals for 1909, made by the Mining Record, contains surprising figures. In round numbers the value of some of the leading mineral products are as follows:

Pig iron, \$435,000,000; soft coal, \$415,000,000; hard coal, 154,000,000; copper, \$143,500,000; gold, \$99,232,000; silver, \$28,000,000; zinc, 26,000,000; lead, 31,500,000.

But there is more romance in digging gold and silver, more chance for big "strikes," and those metals allure the mind more than pig iron, though it is, in the aggregate, nearly five times the value of gold. Petroleum and natural gas rival gold mines in the quickness with which they make a man wealthy. During the year petroleum worth \$118,000,000 and natural gas worth \$52,000,000 were taken from holes in the ground. The only decrease in 1909 from the year before were in Pennsylvania anthracite, \$400,000, natural gas, \$3,000,000, and petroleum, \$12,000,000.—Jackson News.

As to the Farmer.

The New York Tribune says: "Don't waste your pity on the farmers." Reckon not. No one is fool enough for that. The only independent, go-as-you-please, do-as-you-please, only bad luck incidents in the lives of his town friends. Every problem except those incidents to life duration, are easily solved. House rent, fuel, food, are matters that do not haunt his dreams; with him the only question is to the amount of "net gain," for he absolutely controls the greatest puzzle that confronts mankind, that of a liveli hood.—Aberdeen Examiner.

After the Grocery Combine.

It is announced that a suit has been instituted by the Federal authorities at Birmingham, Ala., under the Sherman law, against the Southern Wholesale Grocers' Association. The government alleges that the combination "has resulted in coercing and preventing manufacturers from selling the actual necessities of life direct to the retail dealer or consumer, or to any wholesale grocer unless said grocer is enlisted in a so-called 'green book'."

There is reason to believe that sooner or later the investigation which has inserted the probe into the methods of distribution of the ordinary necessities of life will expose similar combinations operating in every branch of the commodity market for the purpose of keeping prices at the highest possible level. It is reasonable to assume that when the fact concerning these operations are ascertained the State and Federal governments recognize the necessity of legislation which will effectively restrain the operations of such combinations.—State.

Praying for Politicians.

The Rev. Henry M. Couden, chaplain of the lower house of congress, has fallen in the habit of saying things in his morning supplications that make the members sit up and take notice, and doubtless some of them suspect that he is hurling bricks in their direction. Here is what he handed to the law makers in his opening prayer a few days ago:

"Our Father in Heaven, we bless Thy holy name for the upward look, the higher resolve, the firmer step and the forward movement, which characterizes our age in spite of the alarmist, the ominous growls of the pessimist, the gloating tongue of the muckraker and the cry of the demagogue in the press, on the platform and in the pulpit. We most fervently pray for the real reformer, the true statesman, the pure patriot, the noble, generous, high-minded, sincere preacher, that their tribes may increase, and lead us onward to yet greater attainments."

We cannot help but believe, after reading the above, that Brother Couden must have been reading about recent political events down here in Mississippi.

At any rate, we need some good, hefty praying along lines above set forth. If there is virtue in prayer, then Mississippi offers a fertile field for endeavor.—Jackson News.

An Impartial Speaker.

It is not a marked improbability that should Mr. Asher C. Hinds, who for many years has been the parliamentary secretary or counsel of republican speakers, be elected to congress from a Maine district, and the house be republican, he will be chosen speaker. Accordingly, the Rochester Herald tells us there are beginnings of a boom for his election to the speakership, in the event of his prior election to the house as a member of the republican majority.

Unquestionably Mr. Hind would be the best equipped parliamentarian in the next congress, if he should be successful. No doubt, also, his fine sense of parliamentarianism would cause him to be elected him speaker for a seat in congress would be to elect him as unprejudiced outsider to preside over the house, and to limit his duties to the sphere of a moderator of proceedings and debates.

The real defect in the parliamentary system of the house is that its presiding officers is, and is expected to be, a party leader. Out of this condition developed the autocratic rule of the speaker, and the suppression of all intelligent opposition, so necessary to free government by a representative deliberative assembly. This evil has been only partially remedied by the curtailment of the speaker's authority. It can be completely cured only by making the speaker a presiding officer of absolute impartiality, and with no other function except to confine debate and legislation within their proper channels. This can be done by choosing as speaker an expert parliamentarian from outside the house. It is a pity that this experiment cannot be tried with so able a moderator as Mr. Hinds would be.

In theory, the views of the Herald are attractive. Neither of the two leading parties, however, is ready to give up the speakership. If the democrats win Champ Clark will be chosen; if the republicans have the majority, their caucus nominee will not be, in all likelihood, Mr. Asher C. Hinds.—Scimitar.

The tax upon money loaned, is almost a meaningless phrase. Very few pay and there are numerous ways of dodging it, some of them actually provided by statute, but all the same it controls the loan market and maintains high interest. Free money must inevitably make cheap money, for it will uncover all transactions and create lively competition among lenders, and enable home capitalist to compete on equal terms with outsiders who lend without having any tax to pay.—Aberdeen Examiner.

LETTER FROM MR. KING.

Mr. H. M. King, who left with his family in May, after spending a while with his brother in Ohio, sailed the last week in May for Auld Ireland, where he will spend several months at his old home in County Derry. The following letter was received last week, and will be read with interest by a large number of friends:

On board S. S. Cedric,
June 4th, 1910.

Looking out from our temporary quarters we are assured of the fact that as far as water is concerned all the world might be Baptists.

Our trip thus far, to speak mildly, has been ideal; sea rugged enough at times to deliver one from taking the usual Saturday night "tonic" that detains from church Sunday.

Our family, with one exception, has not missed a meal—Joy has missed a few.

We have all kinds of games aboard, making the time pass rapidly. The band plays twice a day, and it seems that even when things are coming up beyond your expectations you are compelled to have it set to music, and thus toil is turned to play and out of the swell comes harmony.

I think daily of Macon and Macon folks. You all have a warm spot in my heart. Macon has shown me great kindness ever since I set foot on her soil. In about three hours we expect to see land—Irish land at that. At 8 p. m. we hope to land at Queenstown; from there we go to Liverpool.

We had a very sad experience last night as we stood with the officers on the stern of the vessel and buried a young man at sea—at six minutes past ten o'clock heard the body strike a black, cold, angry grave. Especially was it sad when we remembered that only a short distance away in London a fond mother awaited the arrival of her son.

Mrs. King's health is improving every day, she has gained considerably in flesh, and before we return home she will be fully recovered.

Very sincerely,

We are accustomed to glorifying in the South over the fact that our State and county and city governments are free from bribery and graft. We pride ourselves on the fact that we give the law-breaker in these respects little show or consideration, but recent developments in two states, this State and Illinois, go to show there is little justification for this self same adulation.

In Illinois they arrest bribe givers and prepare to probe the matter to the bottom. In this State they combine to whitewash the bribe takers and make a scapegoat of the detective who turns them up.

In Illinois the machinery of the law is used to get at the bottom of bribery. In this State the machinery of the administration is used to cover up trails and to stifle honest investigation.

In Illinois, well what's the use. The people who believe that Senator Percy enjoys the seat he at present occupies through bribery will vote for Vandaman next year and the people who don't will split their vote between Percy and Alexander.—Columbus Dispatch.

And that is the style of talk a few journals that are enthusing in the cause of immigration are serving up as bait to "home seekers."

Now we do not believe there is a man in Mississippi with a thimble full of gray matter in his skull who believes that "Senator Percy fills the seat he occupies through bribery." And as to the case, as between Illinois and Mississippi, there is no parity or room for comparison.

In Illinois members of the legislature have gone before the grand jury confessing bribery, not only in votes for senator, but in all kinds of grafts and steals, and turned state's evidence against their colleagues, and as yet no legislative investigation has ensued. Of course bribery there is amply established by confession.

In Mississippi a legislator claimed that he was beset by a levee contractor and a disreputable woman, at his own connivance, and tendered \$1,000, payable upon the installment plan, for his vote; and that he did not expose the reputed deal at a time when it would have done his partisans some good, but went to the grand jury "with all his music in him" after the hour for action had passed.

ed. He did not claim or intimate that any other legislator had handled "tainted money," or that any candidate or candidate's manager or representative had been concerned, directly or indirectly, in any scheme of bribery, or that any vote cast in the Senatorial contest, was bought or sold.

The Mississippi legislature, determined upon probing the matter to the bottom, devoted weeks to hearing the testimony of all comers, sifting every rumor of bribery to the dregs, yet finding no trace of the receipt or payment of a nickel except that claimed to have been gotten in dribbles by Senator Bilbo from Delaney, the levee contractor. After this exhaustive examination, to use the words of the Vicksburg Herald, "in the legislature by a unanimous vote of both houses, the spotless integrity and lofty honor of Senator Percy was declared, and the fairness of his election vindicated."

Now, there are a few of us who care a snap about the issue of the case now pending in the Circuit court of Hinds county, but there are thousands of us who protest against the fair name of our State and the high reputation of its legislators, being assailed on account of this miserable abortion of a dicker between a repudiated State Senator on the one side, and a levee contractor on the other, with another amateur detective, a poor, miserable, disreputable adventurer, as the confident and go-between, in the alleged dicker.—Aberdeen Examiner.

REDUCED FARES TO DETROIT, MICH., AND RETURN.

from coupon agencies, via Mobile & Ohio Railroad, acct. Reunion Grand Lodge, BPO Elks July 11-17, 1910. Tickets on sale July 7 to 11, inc., limited for return on or before July 21, except that on deposit of ticket and payment of fee of \$1.00, extension of return limit to Aug. 20, 1910, may be secured. For full particulars apply to nearest Coupon Agent, Mobile & Ohio R. R. or write, G. A. Griffin, Trav. Pass'r Agt., Meridian, Miss.



The illustration shows the celebrated

CUSTOM TOE Sir Knight

which is but one of the many styles of this splendid shoe—made in a model mens' factory, where nothing else but mens' shoes are built, by expert shoemakers, from the best leathers and materials obtainable; there is no other Custom Toe; our last has never been successfully imitated though many have tried.

All Lasts, All Styles, All Leathers \$3.50, \$4, \$5.

CUSTOM MADE BY

WERTHEIMER-SWARTS SHOE COMPANY

ST. LOUIS, U. S. A.



ROSEMAN & ROBBINS, Macon, Miss.

A Dining Room Shower.

From 4 to 6 p. m., on Tuesday, June 21, at the beautiful new home of Mrs. J. T. Cook, at Fairview, a few miles in the country from Brooksville, a "dining room shower" was given to Mrs. J. Tyson Wilkins.

Little Helene Cook stood at the door and in the receiving line were Misses Alice Cook, Lucille Woodward, Pearl Cook and Mrs. J. Tyson Wilkins. Mrs. A. G. Wilkins carried the guests to the punch bowl, where Misses Mary Rose Rainey and Archer McLeod served them with delicious punch.

From the punch bowl the guests were conducted to the large spacious dining room, where Mrs. J. T. Cook, with Mrs. J. W. Wilkins, received. Miss Bess Norwood presided over the register. The decorations were all in green and white, the punch table being beautifully arranged with vines and ferns, showing the talent of Miss Mary Rose Rainey and Miss Pearl Cook.

The bride wore an exquisite lingerie dress of all-over embroidery and real lace. Miss Cook was gowned in yellow crepe india, and during the afternoon gave a few vocal selections, which were greatly enjoyed.

The guests were greatly entertained by first writing real recipes for the bride's cook book, also "Don'ts" for the bride in a bell-shaped booklet, both books being white, tied with green ribbon, thus carrying out the color scheme.

The guests were served with individual heart-shaped cream, with green and white cake.

Every one was invited to the parlor, where the "Don'ts" were read aloud by Miss Alice Cook. Last, but not least, were the "Toasts" to the bride. One by Miss Rainey on her college life; one by Mrs. Tyndall on her life as a young lady and another by Mrs. A. G. Wilkins on the future life of the bride. Miss Archer McLeod played "Flower Song" very softly while the toasts were being given. During the last toasts Master Russell Cook rolled in a wheel-barrow, beautifully decorated in vines and evergreen with white, containing the many and useful presents.

A. GUEST.

Ice Cream Freezers.

The Nuxbee Co. Hdw. Co., has just received a large supply of Wonder Ice Cream Freezers. Positively the best freezer on the market.

City Pressing Club.

Has the only reliable presser in town. C. I. SARGENT, Prop.

PROGRESS OF THE DOG

Weevils Are Steady Marching Across The State.

While the Mexican boll weevil is steadily pushing his way eastward through Mississippi, and will cross the Alabama line before the close of the year, according to the government entomologists, the dreaded pest has thus far not committed widespread ravages in the cotton fields, according to the reports from special agents of the United States Department of Agriculture, who are at work in the infested area.

The percentage of weevils found in the fields is in nearly every instance, smaller than at this time last year. The season is early, of course, and the insects have plenty of time in which to play havoc with the crop, but where the farmers had the weevil to deal with last year it is an unquestioned fact the number of weevils found in the fields is smaller than usual. This is attributed to favorable weather that has prevailed, the methods of cultivation, and the fact that farmers have been employing their labor at picking off the weevils, paying one cent each for the insects.

The infested area now extends far eastward as Pear River county and at this rate of progress the weevil will probably appear at the Alabama line before the frost period sets in.—Jackson News.

Lost Medal.

Lost somewhere between my house and the Pres byterian church, an Avery Gold Medal, with name Annie B. Thomas on it. Finder will please return same to me and receive reward. S. M. THOMAS.

For Rent.

My residence formerly occupied by myself, now occupied by Mr. Brown, is for rent. Possession given September 1st. Apply to H. H. Brooks, Jr. H. H. Brooks, Sr.

Lost—A horn-handled, silver tipped Silk umbrella. Reward will be paid if left at this office.